

Wednesday, January 12, 2000

Two Girls Arraigneded in Juvenile Court Under Hate Crime Statute

Two 15-year old Duxbury high school sophomores charged under state hate crime statutes, were arraigned in juvenile court in Plymouth Monday.

Police prosecutor and court officer Bob Fontaine said Monday that the girls were formally charged and will be called back for a pre trial hearing on charges some time within the next two months.

The two juveniles were charged by police Dec. 23 with larceny of over \$250, malicious damage, possession of an unlicensed air gun, as well as the violations of Massachusetts' hate crime statute.

Contrary to previous reports, the girls were not suspended from school. Under the school's code of conduct it is up to the discretion of the principal to determine whether or not the students' presence in the building can be construed as detrimental to the educational process of other students.

Fontaine said attorneys involved will file discovery motions to assess evidence.

The victims were not iden-

tified but are members of Congregation Shirat Hayam and one family member is a Duxbury Middle School teacher.

The girls reportedly fired four fluorescent pink paintballs at the house at about 8 pm Dec. 17. Later that evening police said the girls returned and threw a rock breaking a glass door.

A note left at the scene was

said to have carried the message, "this is what happens when you don't decorate for Christmas."

Fontaine said that the hate crime charges are the most serious against the girls.

Asked if any of the charges could be changed, Fontaine said, "Hypothetically, the victim could have it changed in this case."